

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2004/000223

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. 7: E02D 7/06, 7/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
DWPI : E02D 7/06, 7/08 and Keywords ("LIM", induction, stator and like terms)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 24207 B1 (RICE) 13 April 1983	
A	DE 2507676 A1 (TRAPP SYSTEMTECHNIK GmbH) 2 September 1976	

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C       See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
"B"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
"C"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"&"	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

6 DEC 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU

AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE  
PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA  
E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au  
Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929

Authorized officer

S. GHOSH

Telephone No : (02) 6283 2163

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**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
  
  
  
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
  
  
  
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See extra sheet

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
  
  
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

**Continuation of Box No: III**

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

1. Claims 1 to 31 and 33 and method claims 34 and 35 (as appended to claims 1 to 31) are directed to an impact driver and a method, respectively, for driving elongate objects into a body, which comprises, inter alia, a chassis, a ram (supported by said chassis) and a linear induction motor (LIM) having a stator, wherein the LIM interacts with a reaction means (carried by said ram) so as to allow the ram to oscillate between a retracted position and an impact position. It is considered that the underlined feature comprises a first "special technical feature".
2. Claims 32, 36 and 37 are directed to a driver (claim 32 claims a double acting driver) and a method for driving elongate objects into a body, said driver including a ram which relies on power from a LIM stator and gravity (claim 33 does not refer to "gravity") to accelerate (or enhance the acceleration of) the ram during its compression stroke. It is considered that the underlined feature comprises a second "special technical feature".
3. Claims 38 and 39 are directed to an object extraction device for extracting elongate objects from a body, said device including a ram which relies on power from a LIM stator to accelerate the ram during its extraction stroke. Claim 39 also defines the LIM as interacting with a reaction means (carried by said ram) to allow the ram to oscillate between two positions. It is considered that the object extraction device comprises a third "special technical feature".

Since the abovementioned groups of claims do not share any of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions, as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept, a priori.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member		
EP	0024207	JP	56031930	US 4390307
DE	2507676			
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.				
END OF ANNEX				